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Date:	May 28, 2004	Phone Number	Fax Number	MAY 28 2004
To:	Examiner WOO, RICHARD SUKYOON, USPTO			(703) 872-9306
From:	Kevin J. Zilka			

Docket No.: ABE1P002

App. No: 10/644,944

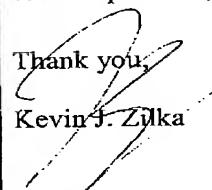
Total Number of Pages Being Transmitted, Including Cover Sheet: 03

## Message:

Please deliver to Examiner Woo.

Examiner Woo,

Per our conversation of May 24, 2004, attached is the USPTO notice that the above application has been granted special status. We look forward to receiving your first action as soon as possible, and will follow up within a month if we have not heard from you.



Thank you,

Kevin J. Zilka

Original to follow Via Regular Mail  Original will Not be Sent  Original will follow Via Overnight Courier

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AT (408) 971-2573 AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE

May 28, 2004



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DIRECTOR'S OFFICE  
 TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3000  
 SILICON VALLEY INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GROUP  
 P.O. BOX 721120  
 SAN JOSE CA 95172-1120

In re application of  
 John R. Abe  
 Application No. 10/644,944  
 Filed: August 19, 2003  
 For: CONTINUOUS PRICE OPTIMIZATION  
 SYSTEM, METHOD AND COMPUTER PROGRAM  
 PRODUCT FOR SATISFYING CERTAIN BUSINESS  
 OBJECTIVES

: DECISION ON PETITION  
 : TO MAKE SPECIAL  
 : (ACCELERATED  
 : EXAMINATION)

This is in response to the petition filed on December 11, 2003 to make the above-identified application special on the basis of special examining procedure for certain new applications - accelerated examination as set forth in MPEP § 708.02 VIII.

The requirements for granting special status under this section are: (A) a petition to make special accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(i); (B) all claims being directed to a single invention, or an election without traverse if the Office determines that all the claims are not directed to a single invention; (C) a statement that a pre-examination search was made listing the field of search; (D) one copy of each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims if said references are not already of record; and (E) a detailed discussion of how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references in accordance with 37 CFR 1.111 (b) and (c).

Since all of the requirements for special status under MPEP § 708.02 VIII have been met, the petition is **GRANTED**.

The examiner is directed (1) to make an interference search for possible interfering applications, (2) to promptly examine this application out of turn, and (3) if any interfering application is discovered, to examine such application simultaneously and state in the first official letter of such application that it is being taken out of turn because of a possible interference.

Petitioner is advised that this application will continue to be special, throughout its entire prosecution and pendency, including interference or appeal, if any, only if petitioner makes a prompt *bona fide* effort, in response to each Office action, to place the application in condition for allowance, even if it is necessary to conduct an interview with the examiner to accomplish this purpose.

**SUMMARY:** Petition to Make Special GRANTED.

Randolph A. Reese  
Randolph A. Reese  
Special Programs Examiner  
Technology Center 3600  
(703) 308-2121

RAR/mjz: 3/29/04